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**PATENT**  
**Practitioner's Docket No. SST/1035****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***In re* application of: William F. Leek

Conf. No. 5971

Application No.: 09/729,491

Examiner: A, Phi Dieu Tran

Filed: 12/03/2000

Group No.: 3637

For: Automatic Take-Up Device with Internal Spring

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**"Express Mail" mailing number EV 459417870 USDate of Deposit August 12, 2004

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The person making this certification is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

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As far as is known to the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application, within three months of the date of entry of the national state in an international application, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), and therefore no fee is required. While no fee is believed to be due, if this belief is in error the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension fees or other relief which may be required for this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-4075.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 12, 2004

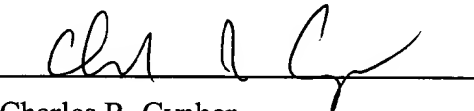
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Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08 (1 pg)  
2 cited references

  
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MODIFIED PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (MODIFIED)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/729,491
		Filing Date	12-03-2000
		First Named Inventor	William F. Leek
		Group Art Unit	3637
		Examiner Name	A, Phi Dieu Tran
Sheet 1 of	Attorney Docket Number	SST/1035	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	B1					
	B2					
	B3					
	B4					
	B5					
	B6					

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	C1	Description of Claims raised in Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc. and Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc. v. Alfred D. Commins and Commins Manufacturing, Inc. (pages 1 and 2).	
	C2	McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., "Product Engineering Design Manual" edited by Douglas C. Greenwood, (New York), copyright 1959, (Title and copyright page, pages 90-97, 316-329).	
	C3		
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	C5		

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